



## THE TARIFF BILL REPORTED

Work of the Ways and Means Committee Made Public.

## THE IMPORTANT SCHEDULES

Restitution of Old Rates on Agricultural Products—A Substitute for Specific Duties in Many Cases. Committee Has Endeavored to Keep Below the McKinley Rates.

Mr. Dingley introduced the new tariff bill in the House yesterday just before the reading of the President's message, which closed the day's proceedings at 4 o'clock. It consists of 123 pages, in twenty-six sections. The first section provides that on and after May 1, 1897, there shall be levied, unless otherwise specially provided in the bill, the rates of duty prescribed in schedules lettered from A to N. This first section occupies 123 pages nearly. The principal subjects are given below. The second section is the free list. The third section embodies the reciprocity provisions; the fourth puts a 10 per cent ad valorem duty on all raw material and 20 per cent on all manufactured articles not elsewhere provided for; the fifth makes dutiable all articles similar in material, quality, or use to those enumerated in the bill, and fixes the rate on any article at the highest placed on an article to which it is similar; the seventh and eighth make free articles necessary for construction of ships for foreign use. The ninth section provides for manufacturing in bond for foreign markets in such a way as to escape duties where the article is made all or in part of material that pays an internal revenue tax; but the manufacture of distilled spirits is excepted from this exemption. The tenth section prohibits the importation of obscene literature, drugs or other articles for the prevention of conception or causing unlawful abortion; of lottery tickets or advertisements; the eleventh fixes the maximum penalty for any Government employee who aids or abets the violation of section ten at \$5,000 fine and ten years in prison; while the twelfth directs what court proceedings shall enforce this portion of the law. Section 13 allows machinery to be brought in free for the purpose of repairing it. Section 14, that the produce of the forests of Maine in the St. John River and tributaries, owned by American citizens, which may be sawed or hewed on the other side of the river in New Brunswick, may be admitted free as now; while section 15 makes a similar provision for forests on the St. Croix River. Section 16 imposes a discriminating duty of 10 per cent on imports brought in vessels not of the United States, except such as are covered by treaty stipulations. Section 17 forbids the importation of goods except in vessels of the United States or such foreign vessels as belong "truly and wholly to the citizens or subjects of that country of which the goods are the growth, production or manufacture, or from which such goods are most usually first shipped." Vessels coming under treaty stipulations are excepted. The penalty for violation of this section is forfeiture. Section 18 exempts from the preceding prohibition the vessels of nations not maintaining a similar regulation against the United States. Section 19 forbids the importation of meat, cattle, except when the Secretary of the Treasury shall determine that it will not endanger introduction of contagious or infectious cattle diseases, and section 20 makes the penalty a maximum of \$500 fine, and a year in prison. Section 21 exempts from duty reimported whisky or other distilled spirits. Section 22 allows goods received from a vessel sunk in American waters to come in free if raised two years after the vessel sunk. Section 23 makes metal setting or refining works to be bonded warehouses into which ores or metals in crude form may be brought free of duty. Section 24 allows a drawback upon the exportation of articles made of materials upon which duties have been paid. The drawback is to be 1 per cent less than the duty paid. Section 25 forbids the importation of goods made all or in part by convict labor. Section 26 repeals the present tariff law and excepts from repeal section 3058, of the Revised Statutes. All the exemptions enumerated above are under supervision of the Secretary of the Treasury, and subject to proper safeguards. The principal schedules of section 1, are these:

**The Sugar Schedule.**  
Schedule E—Sugar. Sugars not above No. 16 Dutch standard in color, tank bottoms, scraps of cane juice, Melacha, concentrated Melacha, concrete and concentrated molasses, testing by the polariscope not above 75 degrees, 1 cent per pound, and for every additional degree or fraction of a degree shown by the polariscope test, three-one-hundredths of 1 cent per pound additional; and on sugar above No. 16 Dutch standard in color, and on all sugar which has gone through a process of refining, 1 cent and eight hundredths and seventy-five one-hundredths of 1 cent per pound; molasses, testing not above 56 degrees, 3 cents per gallon; testing 56 degrees and above, 5 cents per gallon; sugar drainings and sugar sweepings shall be subject to duty as molasses or sugar, as the case may be, according to polariscope test; sugars, tank bottoms, scraps, cane juice, or beet juice, Melacha, concentrated Melacha, and concrete and concentrated molasses, the product of any country which pays, directly or indirectly, a duty on the export thereof, whether imported directly and in condition as exported therefrom, or otherwise, shall pay, in addition to the foregoing rates, a duty equal to such bounty, or so much thereof as may be in excess of any tax collected by such country upon such article, or upon the beet or cane from which it is produced; provided, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to abrogate or in any manner impair or affect the provisions of the treaty of commercial reciprocity concluded between the United States and the king of the Hawaiian Islands on the 30th day of January, 1875, or the provisions of any act of Congress heretofore passed for the execution of the same.  
Maple sugar and maple syrup, 4 cents per pound; glucose or grape sugar, 1 1/2 cents per pound; sugar cane in the natural state, or unmanufactured, 20 per centum ad valorem.  
Sacharine, \$2 per pound and 15 per centum ad valorem. Sugar candy and all confectionery, and all other articles made wholly or in part of sugar, valued at 15 cents

## WHOLE FAMILY DROWNED.

The Rise in the Mississippi Causes Much Suffering.

Memphis, Tenn., March 15.—The first loss of life resulting from the high water was recorded today, an entire negro family and one white child being drowned near Marion, Ark. It is believed that many have perished, owing to the serious condition in all that country, but news from there is difficult to obtain.

A levee on the Arkansas side, some fifty miles above, was swept away Saturday night, but full particulars are not available, and whether fatalities followed is not known. The broken levee was a part of the old State system and incorporated in the St. Francis levee system. The water had a fall through it of about fifteen feet and rushed with great violence over the adjacent country so that casualties are regarded as certain to have occurred.

A number of local vessels are actively engaged in rescuing people and stock from the overflowed sections of Arkansas and the river islands, and hundreds of them are now being provided for in this city. The river here is 30.4, a rise of nearly one and a half feet within forty-eight hours, and still rising. It is also rising at Cairo so that the rise here and below will continue for at least two days more. This carries additional water over the bayou banks in the northern part of the city, with consequent danger to residents in this vicinity, and they will have to seek more secure places. A government steamer will join the relief forces tomorrow.

## HOUSEBOAT WRECKED.

Several Persons Supposed to Be Drowned Near Vanceburg, Ky.

Vanceburg, Ky., March 15.—A houseboat seen in this vicinity yesterday was found wrecked and partly sunk in the river this morning. When last seen four persons, two men and two women, were on the boat. The clothing, furniture, etc., of the boat were found at different points along the bank. A diary was found that had floated to the bank with the name of Louis Shott, of Ravenswood, W. Va., inscribed. There is no other clue to the identity of the occupants.

## GREAT FIRE AT ST. LOUIS

Brave Firemen Killed and Injured While Doing Their Duty.

Ely Walker Dry Goods Company Burned Out—The Total Loss Is Estimated at Over \$1,000,000.

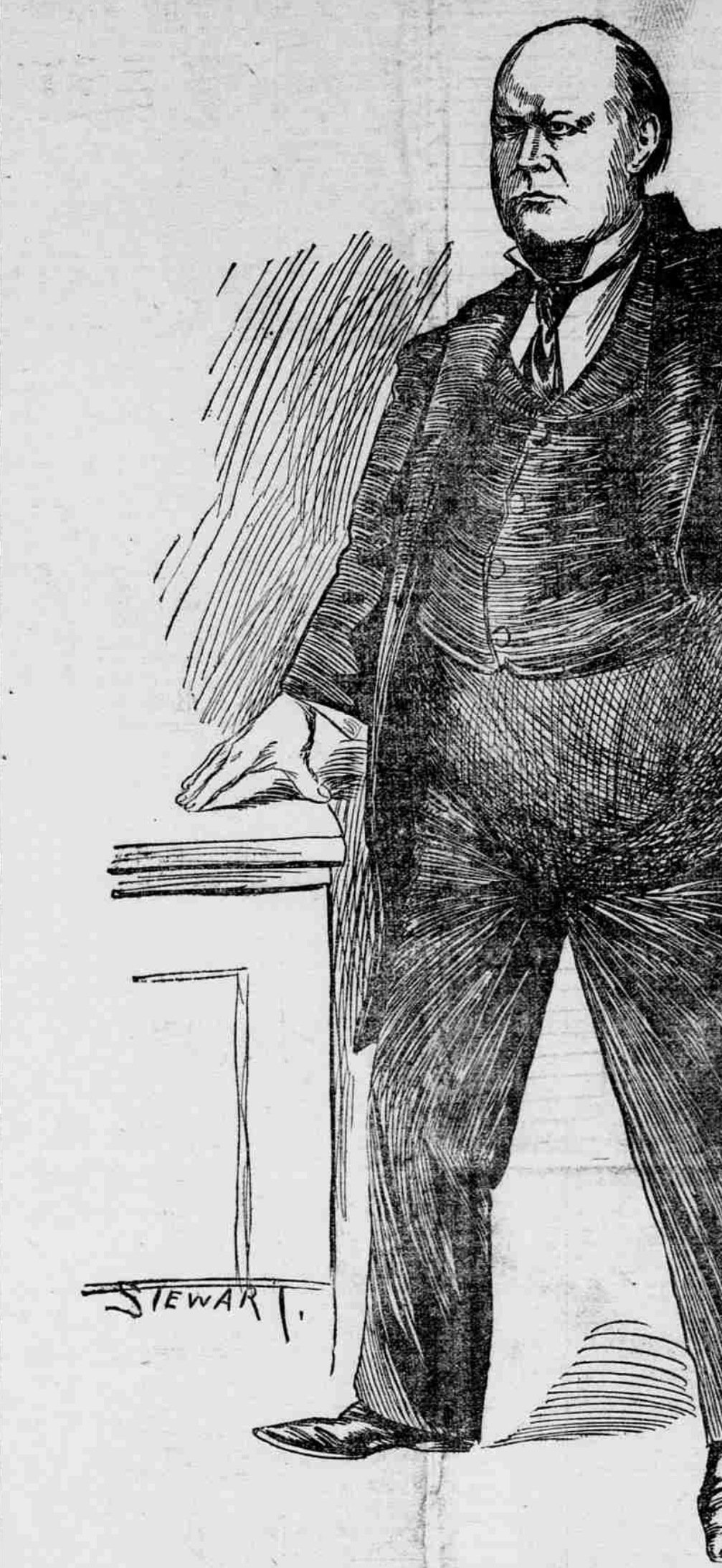
St. Louis, Mo., March 15.—Fire broke out in the fifth floor of the building occupied by the Ely Walker Dry Goods Company, southwest corner of Eighth street and Washington avenue, at 8 o'clock this evening. The fire department was badly hampered, and it was fifteen minutes after the first engine arrived before a stream of water was playing.

Within half an hour the fire shot up the elevator shaft and all the upper floors were ablaze. The building is seven stories high, and every floor was filled with merchandise. The origin of the fire is conjectured, but is supposed to have been caused by crossed electric light wires. At 9 o'clock the fire poured out of all the upper windows and had worked down to the second floor.

Fireman Lee Smith, of Engine Company 18, fell from the third floor through to the basement, and was fatally injured. Mark Barton, a porter, was overcome with smoke and was revived with difficulty. He is in a serious condition.

A member of the dry goods firm estimated the loss at \$1,000,000 on stock. The concern is the largest wholesale dry goods house in the city and their stock is valued at \$1,500,000. The building is made of granite and is thought to be the most perfect slow combustion structure in the city. Loss on the building will be \$100,000, covered by \$20,000 insurance. The dry goods company is insured for \$1,000,000. The insurance is mostly with Eastern companies.

## THE AUTOCRAT.



SPEAKER REED AS HE IS.

## ALL READY FOR THE FRAY

The Three Fights Will Take Place on Wednesday.

## PUGILISTS IN PERFECT FORM

Summer Weather Prevails and All the Prominent Sports of the Country Are Gathered in Carson. Corbett a Big Favorite—The Finishing Touches of the Training.

Carson, Nev., March 15.—Dan Stuart today decided that all three of the fights will be pulled off on Wednesday, thus making the carnival the greatest in the history of pugilism.

The big Texan settled on this course late in the afternoon, and Hawkins, Flaherty, Green, and Smith were ordered to be on hand for medical inspection on Wednesday morning.

## TURKEY TO BE DISRUPTED

Russia Said to Be Conspiring with Greece to That End.

## EXPLOSION ON A WARSHIP

Terrible Accident on the Sisi Veliky Caused Death of Fifteen Men and Injured Many Others. Kissamo in Ruins—More Greek Troops Marching to the Frontier.

New York, March 15.—A special cable dispatch from the Press correspondent in Athens says:

"I learn that secret negotiations are proceeding between King George, of Greece, and the Russian government. This information comes from a high and absolutely trustworthy authority.

## KISSAMO LIES IN RUINS.

The Village Destroyed by the Insurgents' Bombardment.

Canes, March 15.—The village of Kissamo, in the westward of this city, is now in ruins from the bombardment of the insurgents and the fires which followed the bombardment. The fort guarding the village is, however, intact, the insurgents

not yet having succeeded in reducing it, though they have been firing upon it for nearly four days.

The garrison consists of only a company of Turkish infantry, but they are gallantly defending the position, though they are surrounded by insurgents. It is probable that they will eventually be compelled, by a scarcity of provisions and ammunition, to surrender unless assistance is given to them by some of the foreign warships.

## A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

Gun Explosion on Russian Warship Kills Many Men.

Canes, March 15.—A terrible accident occurred today on board the Russian warship Sisi Veliky. The vessel was practicing outside of Suda Bay, when one of her turret guns exploded, owing to the breach not having been properly closed. The noise of the explosion was terrific, and its results were most disastrous. The turret was blown to pieces and every one of its occupants were killed. The turret and cupola, in falling, killed a number of others who were on deck.

The killed numbered fifteen, including two officers.

Thirteen men were so badly injured that they will die, while a number of others received less serious injuries.

## OFF FOR THE FRONTIER.

Six Thousand Greek Infantry Leave for the North.

London, March 15.—The Athens correspondent of the Daily News telegraphs that 6,000 Greek infantry started this evening for the Thessalian frontier. There was much excitement in the city as the troops took their departure, and they were most enthusiastically cheered.

## CONGRESS IN SESSION

House and Senate Meet to Provide More Revenue.

## DIVISION OVER THE RULES

Representative Hepburn Leads the Republican Opposition—Speaker Reed He-lected and Other Officers Chosen—The President's Message Read—Tariff Bill Reported.

The House of Representatives of the Fifty-fifth Congress, called in extra session to supply Government revenues to meet an expected deficit, organized yesterday. There was a great crowd of visitors, with a brilliant array of costumes in the private galleries. There was a link of breakers ahead for the Republican managers in a vote concerning rules in which prominent Republicans stood with Democrats and Populists in opposition and nearly won a victory.

The first proceedings were: The election of Speaker, clerk, door-keeper, sergeant-at-arms, and other officers, and swearing in of members.

The House consists of 357 members, of whom 209 served in the last Congress, and sixteen in former Congresses; while 132 have never served in Congress before. Politically classified, there are 206 Republicans, 122 Democrats, and 29 fusionists, Silverites and Populists. There were 341 of them present today.

The vote on the election of Speaker was: For Mr. Reed, 199; for Mr. Bailey, 114; for Mr. Bell, 21; and for Mr. Newlands, 1. Mr. Reed, having been elected only eleven days before the opening of the Fifty-fifth Congress, made a short speech, promising to perform the duties of his office "without fear, favor or hope of reward," and declaring that he was "much impressed by the sense of responsibility than cheered by the sentiment of thankfulness."

The oath of office was administered to him by Mr. Harner, Rep., Pennsylvania, the senior member in point of continuous service; and the Speaker, in turn, administered the oath to all the members.

After the amusing scene of "drawing for seats" came to a close, the President's message was presented and read; the Dingkey tariff bill was introduced; the Committee on Rules, Ways and Means, and Mileage, were appointed; and the House, at 4 p. m., adjourned until Thursday next.

Mr. Alexander McDowell, Clerk of the last House, called the House to order at noon, when prayer was offered by the chaplain, Rev. Mr. Cullen. He asked an abundant blessing on Congress; that it might become an instrument for the promotion of great good, and "thus open the channels of industry everywhere; to the prosperity may be the good of our people, and our house be blessed with abundance."

The clerk then read the President's proclamation convening Congress and directed the roll of members to be called, by States, alphabetically.

The clerk, unannounced as the result of the call, that 337 members had answered to their names, and at the same time suggested that there should be silence on the floor "so that the galleries may take part in the proceedings." The oddity of this request created laughter among members and spectators.

The next business in order, said the clerk, is the election of Speaker, and nominations are now in order.

Mr. Grosvenor-I have the honor to present for the office of Speaker of the House of the Fifty-fifth Congress, Thomas Brackett Reed, a member-elect from the State of Maine.

This caused hand-clapping on the floor and in the galleries.

Mr. Richardson placed in nomination Joseph W. Bailey of Texas. This was received with hearty hand-clapping.

Mr. John C. Bell was put in nomination by Mr. Jere Simpson.

The clerk stated that there were six members-elect whose names were not on the roll because their credentials had not been received by him. They were from the Tenth district of Iowa, Mr. Doherty; the Sixth district of Mississippi, Mr. Love; the Fourth and Ninth districts of Tennessee, Messrs. McMillin and Pierce; the First district of Texas, Mr. Bell, and from Utah, Mr. Kling.

Various propositions were made that those members should be allowed to take part in the election of speaker, but the clerk declined to admit requests for unanimous consent for that purpose, and a member suggested that the members present were the only persons who could give unanimous consent.

The election of Speaker was then proceeded with, the result being:

For Mr. Reed, 199 votes; for Mr. Bailey, 114 votes; for Mr. Bell, 21 votes, and for Mr. Newlands, of Nevada, 1.

The announcement was applauded on the floor and in the galleries.

The clerk announced that Mr. Reed, having received a majority of all the votes cast, was duly elected Speaker, and he appointed Messrs. Grosvenor, Bailey and Bell, to conduct the Speaker-elect to the chair.

A member appealed to the clerk to insist on order; and the clerk replied that if every member would keep quiet, the House would be in perfect order; and the remark was duly appreciated and hailed with laughter.

Mr. Reed, having been conducted to the chair, amid much applause, addressed the House as follows:

"Gentlemen of the House of Representatives: It has been the custom for a hundred years for Speakers-elect to so fully express their gratitude and their sense of honor conferred that the language by which thanks are conveyed has been long and exhausted. Will you pardon me if I confess that on all the occasions when I have stood here I have been more impressed by the sense of responsibility than cheered by the sentiment of thankfulness.

"Yet I appreciate—no man more—the high honor of your vote and the confidence that it signifies. But high as the honor is, it will surely fade unless your favor is permanent. I cannot, having had experience, expect to please all of you always, but I do hope, with your assistance, and your kind forbearance, to administer justice to each member and to both sides of the chamber under the rules established by the House of Representatives, without fear, favor or the hope of reward."

The oath of office was then administered to Mr. Reed by Mr. Harner, the senior member in consecutive service.

Continued on Third Page.

The Weather.

Generally cloudy and probably showers Tuesday or at night; northeasterly windy, warmer in Virginia.